

Attorney Docket No.: RU-0064  
Inventors: Lazarus et al.  
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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-41 (canceled).

Claim 42 (new): An isolated mutant form of 2,5-Diketo-D-Gluconic Acid (2,5-DKG) Reductase A with an improved rate of converting 2,5-DKG to 2-keto-L-gulonic acid compared to wild-type 2,5-DKG Reductase A, said mutant comprising substitutions at amino acid residues 2, 5, 7, 55, 57 and 192 of the wild-type 2,5-DKG Reductase A set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 43 (new): The isolated mutant of claim 42, wherein said substitutions are an asparagine at amino acid residue 2, threonine at amino acid residue 5, serine at amino acid residue 7, alanine at amino acid residues 55 and 57, and arginine at amino acid residue 192.